

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of

SAITO et al.

Serial Number 09/881,716

Filed: June 18, 2001

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND PROCESS
FOR PRODUCTION THEREOF

Attorney Docket No. TSUT.0013



#9/Election
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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800
Art Unit 2811

Examiner COSTANZO

Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on July 16, 2002, the period of response to which is set to expire on August 16, 2002.

REMARKS

The above amendments to the above-captioned application along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated July 16, 2002 (U.S. Patent Office Paper No. 4). In view of the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to proceed with examination of the application on the merits, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

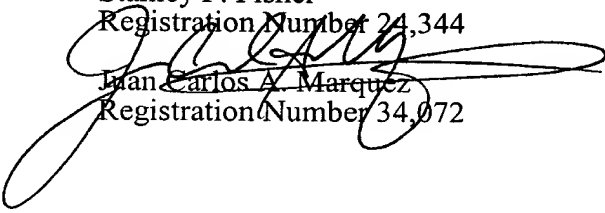
Restriction Requirement

In response to the Examiner's restriction requirement set forth in the above-mentioned Office Action, Applicants hereby elect the continued prosecution of the invention identified as Embodiment I, Figures 1-9, without traverse. Applicants understand that the non-elected inventions and their corresponding claims are hereby withdrawn from further consideration in this pending application. Applicants hereby reserve the right to file divisional applications on such non-elected inventions.

Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the address and phone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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August 9, 2002